

Neighborhood Advisory Group (NAG) Meeting
San Jose City Hall Wing, room 118
September 16, 2009

6:38 pm- Agenda Item I-Welcome and Chair's Remarks

- Beth Shafran Mukai welcomed everyone. In Don Gagliardi's absence, Beth to chair the meeting.

6:40 pm- Agenda Item II- Councilmember Liccardo Announcements

- Made note of the light attendance and suggested that his office would make a greater effort to reach out to absent neighborhood leaders to remind them of the meeting dates.
- Bail bonds moratorium was passed for a period of 22 mos., allowing time for City and County staff to draft a zoning plan, bail bond businesses to move from residential areas and code enforcement to cite those in violation.
- Reusable bag ordinance- proposed effective date 2010. Haulers and grocers support proposal.
- Redevelopment Agency (RDA) expects California to take \$75 million this year and \$12 million next year.
- Willow St. project is running out of money, but has been successful so far.
- Kudos to the neighbors who met with Councilmember Campos.

6:50 pm- Agenda Item III- Open Forum & Announcements

- Beth- Bark in the Park, September 19 at William St Park. Volunteers needed.
- Councilmember Liccardo congratulated Beth Shafran Mukai on being named chairman of the Neighborhoods Commission. The commission presents a great opportunity for neighborhoods to collaborate.
- Paul- San Jose Downtown Residents Association will meet next at Fahrenheit Sept. 17, 7:00-8:30 pm.
- Tina- Ryland Pool Gala September 26
- Matt Cain- Sacred Heart & HealthTrust has La Mesa Project ongoing through January. The project will build raised bed vegetable gardens at 100 homes. Volunteers needed Sept. 23 & 24, 8:00 am- 12 noon. There is also an educational component for garden maintenance. There are also trash clean-up projects available.

7:00 pm- Agenda Item IV- Parks, Trails, Pools Update

- Tina Morrill announced the Rotary/Ryland Pool project is complete. The restoration celebration is Saturday, Sept. 26, 12 noon- 4:00 pm, bring your swimsuits. Thank you to Councilmember Liccardo for his support.

7:05 Agenda Item V- Neighborhoods Commission Update

- Beth Shafran Mukai- Issues from all neighborhoods fall into primarily two categories.
- The commission update will be given at each NAG meeting.

7:08 Agenda Item VI- City Budget Process Discussion

- There's a need to understand the implications of the budget.
- NAG has a desire to provide useful input to the council.
- Antonina- circulated a handout of budget suggestions.
- Councilmember Liccardo suggested that there is a real possibility of change to some parts of the budget, while others areas are "political minefields". The competition policy is up for discussion at the next council meeting. The neighborhoods need to coordinate on priorities. The projected deficit for 2010-11 is \$90 million. The unions need to be involved in the discussion so that everyone can hear each other's opinions.
- Frank- The deficit seems to present a great opportunity for public/private partnerships. Councilmember Liccardo cited the success of Measure M/parks lease.
- Antonina- Suggested that the City model of operation might need to be adjusted to be more like the private model.
- Paul- The City personnel wages and benefits must be examined.
- Roz- Even contractors to the City must pay a prevailing wage and provide good working conditions.
- Ed- Need to understand where the money goes to be able to make better suggestions.
- Beth- Immediate deficit concerns must be addressed first, and then a long-term change can be made to the structure/process. Neighborhoods need to prioritize "sacred" services and bring that list to the next NAG for discussion.
- Councilmember Liccardo offers his office service to create an e-mail tool/survey. Paul volunteered to assist with creating a survey.
- Beth- This process will set the precedent for the future discussions.
- Dmitry- What was the outcome of the budget exercise from the Mayor's meeting?

7:25 pm- Agenda Item VII- Neighborhood Roundtable

Brainstorm:

- Jay- What is the outcome of the City annexing of County pockets?
Councilmember Liccardo- the effect is unknown at this time. The process will add 4-5,000 extra residents, which will require additional services.
- Paul- What is the timeframe for bringing the annexed pockets into City compliance?

- Roz- How will the County pockets be affected? Councilmember Liccardo believes many of the pockets will be grandfathered in. There are no County pockets in D3.
- Councilmember Liccardo- floats the idea of a “parkstrip” party, anyone interested? Need suggestions for ~6 properties, submit to D3 office.
- Wiladene- Suggests “guerrilla” gardening of DOT traffic circles to replace dead plants with native drought resistant ones.
- Jay- Please remove Rosemary Garden sign.
- Paul- Are there any consequences for non-maintenance of planting projects? Participants sign an agreement to maintain planting.

7:55 pm- Agenda Item VIII- Final Announcements and Review Action Items

- Engage neighbors in a discussion to create a list of City service priorities for the next NAG meeting.

8:00 pm- Meeting Adjourned.

Next meeting date: Wednesday, October 21, 2009, 6:30-8:00 pm, City Hall meeting room 118-119